GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2348
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003
RECLASSIFICATION OF RURAL POCKETS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether the Telecom Department has reclassified many rural pockets forming part of urban exchanges as` urban for the purpose of levying telephone tariff based on 2001 census;

(b) if so, whether these villages that are still under Panchayats have population engaged in farm labour and other vocations like Beedi rolling etc.;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government proposes to revive the status of these villages as `Rural` for telephone billing purpose as the State Governments still accord `Rural` status to them in revenue records; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A PRADHAN)

(a) Rural or Urban status of the areas are decided on the basis of latest census figures. Accordingly, the status in respect of some of the areas have been modified on the basis of 2001 census.

(b) & (c) Various pockets/villages are classified as rural as per list issued by Registrar General of India and Census Commissioner in accordance with 2001 Census. The Planning Commission has clarified that the census of India is the agency to identify all areas into urban and rural.

(d) Does not arise in view of (b) and (c) above.